

interesting to ascertain which species breeds on the very large island of St. Lawrence, about one hundred and sixty miles north from Hall's Island, although the proximity of the Siberian mainland, which is less than fifty miles distant, may determine the species as *P. nivalis*.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Immature Dress of *Melospiza palustris*.—A young female of this species, taken at Canton, O., October 16, 1885, differs so much from the published descriptions of the species that it was referred to the father of young ornithologists, Dr. Coues. At his suggestion that the peculiarities of the *young* bird, though known to him, would be of interest, I make the following notes of its points of difference from the adult.

Superciliary line pale but distinct lemon yellow; crown dark chestnut brown, only slightly darker on the forehead, where the black streaks become more numerous. without any of the bright chestnut of the adult: median line ashy, faintly tinged with yellowish; sides of the head and lower throat faintly tinged with yellowish brown, which color extends along the front half of the cervical collar; the black streaks on the back and the bay on the wings less prominent; inner tertiaries edged and tipped with bay; no whitish.

Having only two specimens from which to draw comparisons, these points are noted with diffidence. The yellow superciliary line, however, being so distinct, and contrary to the usual description of the genus, seems to be worthy of the attention of ornithologists.—R. H. BULLEY, *Canton, O.*

[This is another case of '*Passerculus caboti*'; see Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, Vol. VIII, 1883, p. 58.—E. C.]

Wintering of the White-throated and Ipswich Sparrows in Maine.—On January 20, 1886, I shot a White-throated Sparrow at Saco, Maine. It seemed to be comfortably settled for the winter in a swampy piece of woods, consisting chiefly of birches, with a scattering of young spruces. It was in dull autumnal plumage, and proved on dissection to be a male.

On January 23, I found two Ipswich Sparrows in the beach grass about half-way between Pine Point and Old Orchard. I managed to secure them both, though not without some difficulty, as they were exceedingly shy.

Taking the lateness of the date and the severe weather which prevailed for two weeks previous into consideration, I believe that both species were undoubtedly wintering. They certainly had not suffered for food, as all three were well feathered and plump, the Whitethroat in particular being quite fat.—JOSEPH L. GOODALE, *Cambridge, Mass.*

***Junco hyemalis* Nesting in a Bush.**—Apropos of my description of the nesting of *Junco carolinensis*,* Mr. S. N. Rhoads, of Haddonsfield,

* Auk, Vol. III, No. 1, Jan. 1886, p. 109.

New Jersey, writes me: "About the year 1874, when traveling through the White Mountains of New Hampshire, I found the nest of *Funco hyemalis* in a green bush (juniper?) about four feet high, on the summit of Mt. Willard. The nest, which was placed about two feet from the ground, contained a set of four eggs, for the safety of which the birds were very solicitous, thus giving me an ample opportunity to identify them."

This is the first authentic instance of bush-nesting on the part of *F. hyemalis* which has come to my knowledge.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Peculiar Nest of *Chelidon erythrogaster*.—A nest of the Barn Swallow having no mud or dirt in its composition may be something of a curiosity. Such a nest was found by me on Cobb's Island, Virginia, July 7, 1884, under the eaves of the porch of the main house in the settlement. It was rather compactly made up of rootlets and grass, and was thickly lined with downy chicken feathers. It was four and a half inches in diameter and one inch in depth. In it were four newly laid eggs. The writer is wholly at a loss to account for this departure from the usual style of architecture adopted by the Barn Swallow; there was certainly no dearth of mud out of which to construct a nest of the more approved type.—HUGH M. SMITH, *National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

The Orange-crowned Warbler in Eastern Massachusetts.—During a visit to Cambridge last autumn, Mr. H. W. Henshaw spent a day with me in rambling through certain fields and woods which we used to ransack together years ago. We had not expected to do much more than enjoy the brilliant autumn coloring and revive old-time associations; but late in the afternoon, as we were passing through a lane in Belmont, Mr. Henshaw had the good fortune to discover and shoot an Orange-crowned Warbler (*Helminthophila celata*) which was feeding in a low birch in company with several Yellow-rumps (*Dendroica coronata*). This specimen, an adult male in unusually fine plumage, is only the second for Middlesex County, and, I believe, the fifth for the State. Through my friend's generosity it has found a final resting place in my collection by the side of the female which I shot at Concord in 1876.* The date of this last capture was September 30, 1885.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

***Seiurus ludovicianus* in Maine—A Correction.**—The recent death of Prof. C. E. Hamlin makes it necessary to correct an error, which, if he had lived, he intended to have corrected himself.

In his Catalogue of the Birds of Waterville, Maine,† the Large-billed Water-Thrush was included on the evidence of a single specimen (No. 2392, Cambridge Museum Comp. Zoöl.). Professor Hamlin and I re-

* See Bull. N. O. C., Vol. I, Nov., 1886, pp. 94, 95.

† Tenth Annual Report of the Maine Board of Agriculture for 1865, pp. 168-173.